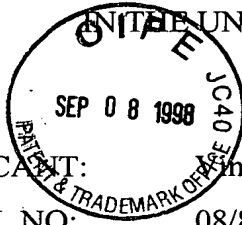


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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT

APPLICANT: Vincent E. Bryan et al CASE NO.: P98,0775
SERIAL NO: 08/856,846 GROUP ART UNIT: 3308
FILED: May 15, 1997 EXAMINER: M. Jones
INVENTION: "HUMAN SPINAL DISC PROSTHESIS"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 10, 1998, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. A vertebral disc endoprosthesis comprising a round, relatively resilient nucleus body convex on all surfaces and relatively rigid, unreticulated concaval-convex elements, each concaval-convex element having an outer [convex] surface of predetermined convexity for engaging adjacent bone structure which has been milled to mate with the concaval-convex element outer convex surface, and a corresponding inner concave surface for engaging the rounded resilient body[.], the concavity of the element inner surfaces being sufficient to retain the rounded resilient body between the concaval-convex elements.

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed March 10, 1998. Claims 1-5 are pending.

In response to Paragraph 1 of the Office Action, formal drawings will be submitted when the application is allowed.

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